

1. (Currently Amended) A wheeled skate and an article of footwear comprising a locking mechanism assembly for removably securing said article of footwear to said wheeled skate, said locking mechanism assembly comprising a footwear portion of said locking mechanism assembly secured to said article of footwear, and a skate portion of said locking mechanism assembly secured to said wheeled skate, wherein said footwear portion of said locking mechanism assembly comprises a bicycle cleat portion of a bicycle cleat locking apparatus, whereby said article of footwear can be removably secured in functional relation to a bicycle pedal including a compatible pedal portion of said bicycle cleat locking apparatus, and alternatively, to said wheeled skate comprising said skate portion of locking mechanism assembly.

2. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate and article of footwear according to claim 1, wherein said footwear portion of locking mechanism assembly and said skate portion of locking mechanism assembly comprise compatible male and female components.

3. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate and article of footwear according to claim 1, wherein said footwear portion of locking mechanism assembly, and said skate portion of locking mechanism assembly, and said pedal portion of said bicycle cleat locking apparatus are hermaphroditic.

4. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate according to claim 1, comprising an in-line wheeled skate.

5. (Withdrawn) The wheeled skate according to claim 1, comprising a quad wheeled skate.

6. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate and article of footwear according to claim 1, further including fastening means for removably securing the rearfoot of said article of footwear to said wheeled skate.

7. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate according to claim 1, further comprising a rotatable brake pad including a peripheral portion which is orientated to engage a skating surface supporting said wheeled skate when said medial side of said wheeled skate is inclined inwardly.

8. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate according to claim 7, comprising a renewable wear surface for engagement with said rotatable brake pad.

9. (Withdrawn) The wheeled skate according to claim 7, wherein said rotatable brake pad is spherical.

10. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate according to claim 7, wherein said rotatable brake pad is oval.

11. (Withdrawn) The wheeled skate according to claim 7, wherein said rotatable brake pad is cylindrical.

12. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate according to claim 7, further comprising a longitudinal axis, wherein said rotatable brake pad is configured for rotation substantially parallel with respect to the longitudinal axis of said wheeled skate.

13. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate according to claim 7, further including a chassis, wherein at least a portion of said peripheral portion of said rotatable brake pad is engaged with a portion of said chassis of said wheeled skate.

14. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate according to claim 7, wherein said rotatable brake pad is secured by a brake pad retainer, and said rotatable brake pad and said brake pad retainer are removable and renewable.

15. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate according to claim 14, and a ground support surface, said wheeled skate further comprising a chassis having a platform and an inferior portion, said rotatable brake pad and said brake pad retainer extending between a position near said inferior portion of said chassis and said platform at an angle in the range between 25-45 degrees.

16. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate according to claim 1, further comprising a removable front brake pad extending at least to the anterior side of said wheeled skate, and also a removable rear brake pad extending at least to the posterior side of said wheeled skate.

17. (Withdrawn) The wheeled skate according to claim 1, further comprising a rocker adjustment device.

18. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate according to claim 1, further comprising an anterior chassis portion, a posterior chassis portion, and fastening means, whereby said longitudinal length of said wheeled skate is adjustable.

19. (Currently Amended) A wheeled skate having a plurality of wheels for rolling upon a skating surface comprising a chassis comprising a longitudinal axis and a medial side, and a rotatable brake pad mounted to a brake pad ~~support~~ retainer, said rotatable brake pad being orientated to engage said skating surface supporting said wheeled skate when said medial side of said wheeled skate is inclined inwardly, wherein said rotatable brake pad is located exterior to said medial side of said chassis, and said rotatable brake pad rotates substantially parallel with respect to said longitudinal axis of said wheeled skate and independently of said plurality of wheels, when said medial side of said wheeled skate is inclined inwardly.

20. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate according to claim 19, wherein said rotatable brake pad comprises an oval brake pad.

21. (Previously Presented) The wheeled skate according to claim 19, said wheeled skate including a chassis having a middle, wherein said rotatable brake pad is positioned at said middle of said chassis on said medial side.

22. (Previously Presented) A wheeled skate comprising a chassis having a medial side, and an article of footwear, said wheeled skate further comprising a rotatable brake pad including a peripheral portion which is orientated to engage a skating surface supporting said wheeled skate when said medial side of said wheeled skate is inclined inwardly, said rotatable brake pad located exterior to said medial side of said chassis, said wheeled skate and said article of footwear further comprising a locking mechanism assembly for removably securing said article of footwear to said wheeled skate, said locking mechanism assembly comprising a footwear portion of locking mechanism assembly secured to said article of footwear, and said chassis comprising a compatible skate portion of locking mechanism assembly, wherein said footwear portion of

locking mechanism assembly comprises a bicycle cleat portion of a bicycle cleat locking apparatus, whereby said article of footwear can be removably secured in functional relation to a bicycle pedal including a compatible pedal portion of said bicycle cleat locking apparatus, and alternatively, to said chassis comprising said compatible skate portion of locking mechanism assembly.

23. (Previously Presented) A wheeled skate, and an article of footwear comprising an anterior side, a posterior side, a medial side, a lateral side, a superior side, an inferior side, a forefoot, and a rearfoot, said wheeled skate and said article of footwear comprising a locking mechanism assembly for removably securing said forefoot of said article of footwear to said wheeled skate, said locking mechanism assembly comprising a footwear portion of locking mechanism assembly secured to said inferior side of said forefoot of said article of footwear, said wheeled skate comprising a compatible skate portion of locking mechanism assembly, whereby said forefoot of said article of footwear can be removably secured to said wheeled skate, said wheeled skate further comprising means for removably securing said rearfoot of said article of footwear to said wheeled skate, said means comprising a rearfoot retainer flange which encompasses a portion of said medial, said lateral, and said posterior sides of said article of footwear when said forefoot of said article of footwear is removably secured to said wheeled skate and said rearfoot of said article of footwear is positioned within said rearfoot retainer flange, said rearfoot of said article of footwear being further removably secured by fastening means to said rearfoot retainer flange, wherein said footwear portion of locking mechanism assembly comprises a bicycle cleat portion of a bicycle cleat locking apparatus, whereby said article of footwear can be removably secured to a bicycle pedal including a compatible pedal portion of said bicycle cleat locking apparatus, and alternatively, to said chassis of said wheeled skate comprising said skate portion of locking mechanism assembly.

24. (Withdrawn) A wheeled skate comprising an elastomeric suspension comprising an axle retainer and an elastomer, said axle retainer having a superior side, inferior side, anterior side, posterior side, medial side, and lateral side, said elastomer substantially encompassing said axle retainer on at least said superior side, said inferior side, said anterior side, and said posterior side.

25. (Withdrawn) A quad wheel skate for use by a wearer having a given foot length size, said foot length size being assigned a dimensionless value of 1 for the purpose of expressing and

defining at least one relationship and ratio between said given foot length size and specific dimensions of said quad wheeled skate, said quad wheeled skate having an anterior side, a posterior side, a medial side, a lateral side, a superior side, an inferior side, a longitudinal axis, a transverse axis, a chassis having a platform, a front axle having a middle, a rear axle having a middle, a plurality of wheels consisting of two front wheels and two rear wheels, an overall longitudinal length, said overall longitudinal length being a function of said wearer's foot length size and expressed as a ratio of said overall longitudinal length to said wearer's foot length size in the range between  $1/1$  and  $1.25/1$ , a longitudinal wheel base length between the middle of said front axle and the middle of said rear axle, said longitudinal wheel base length being a function of said wearer's foot length size and expressed as a ratio of said wearer's foot length size and said longitudinal wheel base length in the range between  $1.2/1$  and  $1.6/1$ , a first transverse wheel base length consisting of the outside measurement between said front wheels and a second transverse wheel base length consisting of the outside measurement between said rear wheels each of said first transverse wheel base length and said second transverse wheel base length being in the range between 4 and  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches, the length between the middle of said front axle and said anterior side of said quad wheeled skate and also the length between the middle of said rear axle and said posterior side of said quad wheeled skate each being in the range between 1 and 3 inches, and when said quad wheeled skate is resting upright and level upon a level support surface the inferior side of said chassis has a height above said support surface in the range between  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and the height of said platform of said chassis adjacent said front axle is in the range between 1 to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

26. (Previously Presented) A wheeled skate, and an article of footwear comprising an anterior side, a posterior side, a medial side, a lateral side, a superior side, an inferior side, a forefoot, and a rearfoot, said wheeled skate and said article of footwear comprising a locking mechanism assembly for removably securing said forefoot of said article of footwear to said wheeled skate, said locking mechanism assembly comprising a footwear portion of locking mechanism assembly secured to said inferior side of said forefoot of said article of footwear, said wheeled skate comprising a compatible skate portion of locking mechanism assembly, whereby said

forefoot of said article of footwear can be removably secured to said wheeled skate, said wheeled skate further comprising means for removably securing said rearfoot of said article of footwear to said wheeled skate, said means comprising a rearfoot retainer flange which encompasses a portion of said medial, said lateral, and said posterior sides of said article of footwear when said forefoot of said article of footwear is removably secured to said wheeled skate and said rearfoot of said article of footwear is positioned within said rearfoot retainer flange, wherein said footwear portion of locking mechanism assembly comprises a bicycle cleat portion of a bicycle cleat locking apparatus, whereby said article of footwear can be removably secured to a bicycle pedal including a compatible pedal portion of said bicycle cleat locking apparatus, and alternatively, to said chassis of said wheeled skate comprising said skate portion of locking mechanism assembly.

27. (New) The wheeled skate and article of footwear according to claim 26, wherein said rearfoot of said article of footwear is removably secured by said fastening means to said rearfoot retainer flange.

28. (New) The wheeled skate according to claim 19, comprising a renewable wear surface for engagement with said rotatable brake pad.

29. (New) The wheeled skate according to claim 19, wherein at least a portion of the peripheral portion of said rotatable brake pad is engaged with a portion of said chassis of said wheeled skate.

30. (New) The wheeled skate according to claim 19, wherein said rotatable brake pad is secured by a brake pad retainer, and said rotatable brake pad and said brake pad retainer are removable and renewable.

31. (New) The wheeled skate according to claim 30, and a ground support surface, said wheeled skate further comprising a chassis having a platform and an inferior portion, said rotatable brake pad and said brake pad retainer extending between a position near said inferior portion of said chassis and said platform at an angle in the range between 25-45 degrees.

32. (New) The wheeled skate according to claim 19, further comprising a removable front brake

pad extending at least to the anterior side of said wheeled skate, and also a removable rear brake pad extending at least to the posterior side of said wheeled skate.

33. (New) The wheeled skate according to claim 19, further comprising an anterior chassis portion, a posterior chassis portion, and fastening means, whereby said longitudinal length of said wheeled skate is adjustable.